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## COMMISSIONER JONATHAN S. ADELSTEIN RESPONDS TO NTIA REPORT ON BROADBAND

*Washington, DC* – In response to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's release of "Networked Nation: Broadband in America 2007," Commissioner Adelstein released the following statement:

"With only half of adult Americans participating in the broadband age and U.S. consumers paying far more than citizens in other countries for less bandwidth, this report appears to be missing some key chapters. Noticeably absent is any coherent strategy going forward. This report relies on widely-discredited data in a strained effort that only distracts us from the real work ahead. Rather than bragging about dubious accomplishments, we need to quickly implement a new agenda for expanding our broadband capabilities.

Despite the hard work of broadband providers and the dire need for greater bandwidth, the U.S. continues to slide down virtually every measure of the international rankings of broadband competitiveness. The truth is we're behind, we are falling further, and we pay more per megabit than many of our global competitors.

Far from declaring victory, we need a national strategy for delivering affordable, truly-high speed Internet connections to all Americans, no matter where they live. Each day we fail to take realistic account of our successes and failures and rise to the broadband challenge means lost opportunities for our communities and our country's productivity, health, public safety, environment, and economic future."